

CLAIM AMENDMENTS:

1. (currently amended) A power supply apparatus ~~for a vehicle slide door~~, comprising:

~~a cable for installation between the vehicle body and the slide door; and~~
a cable guide ~~for guiding the cable, the cable guide comprising a plurality of generally tubular link members interconnected so that each link member can pivot relative to at least one adjacent link member;~~

wherein the cable guide includes a first section and a second section, interconnecting portions of the link members in the first section being configured so that the first section is capable of being bent in a predetermined direction from a generally linear condition, interconnection portions of the link members in the second section being configured so that the second section is capable of being bent only in an opposite direction opposite to the predetermined direction from a generally linear condition, so that intermediate portion of the cable guide can be bent into a generally S-shape; and
a cable passed through the generally tubular link members of the cable guide.

2. (currently amended) ~~The~~ A power supply apparatus for supplying power between a vehicle body and a slide door according to claim 1, further that is movable relative to the vehicle body along a direction of sliding movement, the power supply apparatus comprising:

a cable;

_____ a cable guide for guiding the cable, the cable guide comprising a plurality of link members interconnected so that each link member can pivot relative to at least one adjacent link member;

_____ a first support member configured for mounting to the vehicle body, the first support member supporting a first end portion of the cable guide in such a manner that the first end portion is directed toward the slide door in non-parallel relation to a the direction of sliding movement of the slide door; and

_____ a second support member configured for mounting to the slide door, the second support member supporting a second end portion of the cable guide, the second support member being capable of moving to pass by the first support member in accordance with the sliding movement of the slide door;

_____ wherein the cable guide includes a first section and a second section, the first section includes the first end portion, and the second section includes the second end portion;

_____ the link members of the first section being configured so that the first section can be bent in both of the a predetermined direction and the an opposite direction from the a generally linear condition; and,

_____ the link members in the second section being configured so that the second section is capable of being bent only in an opposite direction to the predetermined direction from a generally linear condition; and

_____ whereby, in accordance with the sliding movement of the slide door, the cable guide extends away from the vehicle body, and is bent at the first section to extend toward the second support member.

3. (currently amended) The power supply apparatus ~~for a vehicle slide door~~ according to claim 2,

wherein

the cable guide can be bent and deformed between a first bending condition and a second bending condition, ~~in accordance with the sliding movement of the slide door;~~

in the first bending condition, the cable guide extends away from the ~~vehicle body~~ first support member and further extends generally linearly toward the second support member; and,

in the second bending condition, the cable guide extends away from the ~~vehicle body~~ first support member, and further is inverted into a generally J-shape to extend toward the second support member.

4. (currently amended) The power supply apparatus ~~for a vehicle slide door~~ according to claim 3,

wherein,

in the first bending condition, the first support member supports the one end portion of the cable guide in such a manner that the one end portion is inclined away from the second support member relative to a direction perpendicular to the direction of sliding movement ~~of the slide door~~.

5. (currently amended) The power supply apparatus ~~for a vehicle slide door~~ according to claim 2,

wherein a bending angle of each interconnecting portion between the link members of the first section is determined such that the cable guide does not interfere with any member provided at the vehicle body.

6. (currently amended) The power supply apparatus ~~for a vehicle slide door~~ according to claim 2,

wherein the first section includes a section having the plurality of link members so interconnected as to be bent only in one direction from the linear condition, and a section having the plurality of link members so interconnected as to be bent in both directions from the linear condition.

7. (currently amended) The power supply apparatus ~~for a vehicle slide door~~ according to claim 2,

wherein the cable guide is covered with a flexible tube member of a tubular shape.

8. (canceled).

9. (canceled).

10. (currently amended) ~~The~~ A power supply apparatus for a vehicle slide door ~~according to claim 9, comprising:~~

_____ a cable;

_____ a cable guide comprising a plurality of link members interconnected so that each link member can pivot relative to at least one adjacent link member, the cable guide including a first section and a second section, interconnecting portions of the link

members in the first section being configured so that the first section is capable of being bent in a predetermined direction from a generally linear condition, interconnection portions of the link members in the second section being configured so that the second section is capable of being bent only in an opposite direction opposite to the predetermined direction from a generally linear condition, so that intermediate portion of the cable guide can be bent into a generally S-shape;

wherein each of the link members includes:

a body portion of a generally tubular shape for accommodating the cable;

projections which are formed respectively on opposed side walls of one end portion of the body portion and which function respectively as rotation shafts;

reception portions provided respectively at opposed side walls of the other end portion of the body portion such that axes of the reception portions are parallel to axes of the projections of the mating link member to be connected to the link member, the projections being fitted into the reception portions to be rotatably supported;

a first abutment portion formed at the one end portion of said body portion;

and

a second abutment portion formed at the other end portion of the body portion to abut against the first abutment portion of the mating link member thereby limiting the rotation range of the mating link member.

11. (currently amended) A cable guide for ~~guiding a cable~~ extension between a fixing structure and a moving structure, comprising:

a plurality of link members interconnected so that each link member can pivot relative to at least one adjacent link member;

wherein the cable guide includes a first section and a second section, the link members in the first section being configured so that the first section is capable of being bent in a predetermined direction from a generally linear condition, the link members in the second section being configured so that the second section is capable of being bent only in an opposite direction opposite to the predetermined direction from a generally linear condition.

12. (previously presented) The cable guide according to claim 11,

wherein

the plurality of link members are mutually connected by interconnecting portions;

a bending direction of each of the interconnecting portions is so limited that one of any two adjacent interconnected link members is allowed to be bent relative to the other link member only in one direction from a linearly-extending condition;

the bending directions of the interconnecting portions in each of the first and second sections are set to the same direction; and

the bending direction of each interconnecting portion in the first section is opposite to the bending direction of each interconnecting portion in the second section;

whereby, an intermediate portion of the cable guide in the longitudinal direction can be bent into a generally S-shape.

13. (currently amended) The cable guide according to claim 12, wherein each of the plurality of link members has a generally tubular shape ~~so that~~, the cable guide further comprising a cable can be passed through the link members; and

~~the cable is passed through the cable guide to be installed.~~

14. (currently amended) ~~The A cable guide according to claim 13 for~~
guiding a cable between a fixing structure and a moving structure, comprising:

a plurality of link members interconnected so that each link member can
pivot relative to at least one adjacent link member, the plurality of link members being
mutual connected by interconnecting portions, a bending direction of the interconnecting
portions being limited so that one of any two adjacent interconnected link members is
allowed to be bent relative to the other link member only in one direction from a linearly
extended condition;

the cable guide including a first section and a second section, the bending
direction of the interconnecting portions in each of the first and second sections are set
to the same direction and the bending direction of each interconnecting portion in the
first section is opposite to the bending direction of each interconnecting portion in the
second section so that the cable guide can be bent into a generally S-shape;

wherein each of the plurality of linear members includes:

a body portion of a generally tubular shape;

projections which are formed respectively on opposed side walls of one
end portion of the body portion and which function respectively as rotation shafts;

reception portions provided respectively at opposed side walls of the other
end portion of the body portion such that axes of the reception portions are parallel to
axes of the projections of the mating link member to be connected to the link member,
the projections being fitted into the reception portions to be rotatably supported;

a first abutment portion formed at the one end portion of said body portion;

and

a second abutment portion formed at the other end portion of the body portion to abut against the first abutment portion of the mating link member thereby limiting the rotation range of the mating link member.

15. (previously presented) An automobile comprising:

a vehicle body;

a moving structure slidably mounted on the vehicle body;

a cable installed between the vehicle body and the moving structure; and

a cable guide for guiding the cable;

wherein the cable guide includes a plurality of link members interconnected into a linear configuration so that each link member can pivot relative to at least one adjacent link member and

the cable guide includes a first section and a second section, the link members in the first section being configured so that the first section is capable of being bent in a predetermined direction from a generally linear condition, the link members in the second section being configured so that the second section is capable of being bent only in an opposite direction opposite to the predetermined direction from a generally linear condition.

16. (original) The automobile according to claim 15, wherein the moving structure is a slide door of the vehicle.